

To the Mayor, Alderman and Councillors of the  
Borough of Lostwithiel

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual  
Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances  
of the Borough for the year 1961

I wish to record my thanks to Mr. Setchell,  
the Borough Surveyor, and to Mr. Watts for their  
continued help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd) JAMES TURNER

Medical Officer of Health.



# SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	3050
Population (estimated mid-year) 1920	
{ Number of Inhabited Houses	776
{ Rateable value	£19,696
{ Product of a Penny Rate	£78

					<u>Rate per 1,000 Population</u>	
<u>Live BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Lostwithiel</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>	
Legitimate	13	5	} 20	10.4.	-	
Illegitimate	2	0				
Corrected for comparison with other areas				11.2	17.4.	
Illegitimate births per cent of total births				10.0	-	
					<u>Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births</u>	
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>						
Legitimate	0	1	} 1	47.6	18.7	
Illegitimate	0	0				
<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	15	6	21			
<u>INFANT DEATHS</u>						
Legitimate	2	0	} 2			
Illegitimate	0	0				
Rate per 1,000 total live births				100.0	21.4	
do. Legitimate births				111.1	-	
do. Illegitimate births				0.0	-	
<u>NEO-NATAL DEATHS</u>				<u>Rate per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
Infant deaths under 4 weeks	1	0	1	50	15.5	
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL DEATHS</u>						
Infant deaths under 1 week	1	0	1	50	13.7	
<u>PERI-NATAL DEATHS</u>				<u>Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births</u>		
Still births and deaths under 1 week	1	1	2	95.2	32.2	
<u>MATERNAL DEATHS</u>	0	0	0	0.0	0.33	
<u>DEATHS</u>						
(All ages and causes)	17	20	37	19.2	-	
Rate corrected for comparison with other areas				13.7	12.0	

# CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table gives the causes of death in accordance with the International Abbreviated List (1948)

<u>Diseases</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	-
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	-	-
15. Leukaemia, aleukemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	0	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	4
18. Coronary disease, angina	4	1
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	3
20. Other heart disease	0 3	4
21. Other circulatory disease	-	1
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	-	1
24. Bronchitis	0 2	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth abortion	0	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34. All other accidents	1	-
35. Suicide	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
All causes	17	20



The following short table gives the numbers of those dying in the age groups indicated:-

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
0-1 year	2	0
1-59 years	2	2
60-69 years	3	3
70-79 years	6	6
80-89 years	4	6
90 and over	0	3
Average age at death	Males 63.0 years Females 77.5 years	

The following table gives the percentage contribution of the main causes of death. As the figures in any one year are small and fluctuate widely I have averaged over the past twelve years.

(Average 1950-1961 inclusive)

	<u>Lostwithiel</u>	<u>England and Wales</u> (1960)
Tuberculosis	1.6*	0.6
All cancer	15.4	18.5
Vascular Lesions of Central nervous system	13.9	14.5
Diseases of circulatory system	40.9	37.9
Diseases of respiratory system	6.7	10.9.
Diseases of digestive system	1.9	3.0
Diseases of genito-urinary system	2.0	2.0
Accidents, violence, etc.	6.3	4.4

\*no deaths since 1953

Generally speaking, respiratory deaths in Cornwall are about half those of England and Wales but otherwise the causes are similar.

#### SECTION A

Lostwithiel is a quiet country town set in pleasant surroundings in the valley of the Fowey River. The town has many historic associations and has some very well preserved buildings. The only industry of any consequence is the milk depot.

There is a considerable rise in the population during the summer months caused by the influx of visitors.

#### SECTION B

##### General Provisions of Health Service

##### Public Health Officers:

- (1) Medical Officer of Health, J.G.S.Turner, M.B., B.Sc., D.P.H., Area Health Office, Moorland Rd, St.Austell. Telephone St.Austell 2206
- (2) Public Health Inspector, C.A.L. Setchell, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H.

Laboratory Facilities. These are available at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro where all material is sent for investigation.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis Supplies of diphtheria prophylactic alone, and in various combinations with whooping cough vaccine and tetanus toxoid are available at the Area Health Office. Poliomyelitis vaccine has been readily available and is issued on request.

Ambulance Facilities. The control of ambulances has passed from the Area Health Office to a special control centre at Bodmin. There will be no change in availability and the method of obtaining an ambulance is unchanged.

Nursing in the Home There is one District Nurse, Midwife-Health Visitor, who is able to cope with all demands.

Home Help This service has worked well and thanks are due to Mrs. Mayell who administers the service.

One maternity case was helped.

Maternity and Child Welfare There is no clinic but as the Nurse visits regularly in the home, the health of the children is well supervised.

Hospitals There are no hospitals in the area and patients are sent to St. Austell, Bodmin, Fowey, Truro and Redruth. Patients with infectious diseases are sent to Truro Isolation Hospital when necessary.

### SECTION C

#### Water Supply

Apart from the higher parts of the Town Area, such as Uplands and Rose Hill, where there have, on occasions, been complaints of lack of adequate pressures, the water supply to the area and of its several parts is regarded as being satisfactory both in quantity and quality. With the exception of a few outlying and isolated cottages who rely on water supplies from wells, the whole of the Borough is now supplied from public water mains direct to the houses, there being only six instances where a supply is from an outside stand-pipe, seven new connections to the mains supply being made during the year.

Progress with the Fowey River Joint Water Scheme, enabled a start to be made with the Borough's Improvement Scheme early in the year. This entailed the provision of a supply main from the new Chark Hill Reservoir connected to the Town's existing distribution system, and a new 4" main laid across the River Fowey to Bridgend and the construction of a new balancing reservoir of 100,000 gallon capacity at Collebeacon. Abstraction of supplies from the River Fowey Scheme was commenced on the 22nd December. It is anticipated that the whole of the water improvement works for the Borough will be completed towards the end of next year.

Samples of water have been taken at frequent intervals from various points on the distribution system during the year as follows:-

No. of samples	37
Results satisfactory	25
Results unsatisfactory	12

Of the 12 samples found not up to standard, 3 were from faulty taps and subsequently improved, and 9 from existing sources of supply either abandoned or consequently improved.



## Sewerage

In December specially appointed Members of the Council met an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to discuss the question of sewerage and sewage disposal for the Town and the Council's suggested improvement scheme.

Subsequently, although the Minister suggested that the scheme might be undertaken in two separate stages owing to the improbability of obtaining financial assistance, further consideration of the matter has been postponed.

## SECTION D

### Housing

Informal notices and interview with owners secured necessary repairs in 58 instances.

### Housing of Old People

The erection of 12 flats on the Tangier site - now formally named by the Council, Mill Gardens - is to be commenced in the new year.

### Housing Improvements

Not enough use is being made by property owners of the provisions and assistance available by way of Improvement Grants. During the year 6 applications for Standard Grants were made and approved.

### Housing - for year ended 31st December 1961. Lostwithiel Borough

- |        |   |     |
|--------|---|-----|
| 1. (a) | Total number of permanent houses at 31st December 1961                              | 69  |
| (b)    | Total number of permanent houses owned by Local Authority at 31st December 1961     | 109 |
| 2. (a) | New houses erected:-  |     |
| (i)    | by local authority  | nil |
| (ii)   | by private enterprise   | 3   |
| (b)    | Number of applicants on housing list at the end of year                             | 57  |
| 3.     | Number of houses specially provided for, and occupied by, people of pensionable age | nil |
| (a)    | Receiving contribution from County Council for Welfare Services                     | nil |
| (b)    | Other houses  | nil |
| 4.     | Houses demolished:  |     |
| (a)    | in clearance areas:   |     |
| (i)    | Houses unfit for human habitation   | nil |
| (ii)   | Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc.                                   | nil |
| (iii)  | Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957                       | nil |

(b) Not in clearance areas:

(i) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957	Nil
(ii) Local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	4
(iii) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil
(iv) Unfit houses included in unfitness Orders	nil

5. Unfit houses closed:

(a) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act 1957	1
(b) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act 1957	nil
(c) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act 1957	nil

6. Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied:

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
(a) After informal action by local Authority	24	nil
(b) After formal notice under:-		
(i) Public Health Acts	Nil	nil
(ii) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	Nil	Nil
(c) Under Section 24 Housing Act 1957	Nil	Nil

7. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Act 1957):

(a) Retained for temporary accommodation:	
(i) Under Section 48	nil
(ii) Under Section 17(2)	nil
(iii) Under Section 46	nil
(b) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53	nil

8. Purchase of houses by agreement:

Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed clearance orders or compulsory purchase orders, purchased during the year

nil

9. Housing Acts 1949-1959

Improvement grants:

(a) Discretionary:

Number of applications received - dwellings	2
Number of applications approved - dwellings	2



Total approved expenditure	£380
Total amount of grants made	Nil

(b) Standard:

Number of applications received - dwellings	6
Number of applications approved - dwellings	6
Total approved expenditure	£1130
Total amount of grants made	£ 674

SECTION E

Meat and other foods:

Slaughtering is carried on at rare intervals in the only owner/occupier licensed slaughterhouse, where the standard of animals dealt with is extremely high. The bulk of the meat sold in the area is obtained from wholesalers.

MEAT INSPECTION 1961

	<u>Cattle</u>			<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Others</u>		
Number killed	Nil	nil	9	nil	12
Number inspected -	-	-	9	-	12
All diseases except cysticercosis and tuberculosis:					
(a) Whole carcase condemned	-	-	Nil	-	Nil
(b) Carcase of which some part or organ condemned	-	-	1	-	Nil
Tuberculosis only:					
(a) Whole carcase condemned	-	-	Nil	-	Nil
(b) Carcase of which some part or organ condemned	-	-	Nil	-	1
Cysticercosis only:					
(a) Whole carcase condemned	-	-	Nil	-	Nil
(b) Carcase of which some part or organ condemned	-	-	Nil	-	Nil
Gross weight of meat condemned	-	-	14lbs.		9lbs

Other foods:

Tinned and other goods are inspected upon request from retailers, and are properly dealt with - small quantities are condemned from time to time as a result of decomposition or damaged tins. The amount dealt with during the year under review being as follows:-

Corned Beef	16 lbs.
Peas	4 lbs.
Ham	12 lbs.

Milk:

Periodic visits are made to the three milk retailers in the Town whose premises are quite satisfactory - bottled milk only being sold as it is received from the bottling establishment.

Cafes, Restaurants and Food Catering Premises

One new cafe/restaurant was established during the year. Visits of inspection are regularly made to all food preparing premises, and as a result considerable improvements in the kitchen at one hotel were carried out. In general the standard of cleanliness is satisfactory.

SECTION F

Prevalence of and control over  
infectious and other diseases

<u>Disease</u>	<u>No. of cases during 1961</u>	<u>Rate for 1,000 Population</u>		
		<u>Lostwithiel</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>	
		<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1961</u>
Whooping Cough	2	0.5	1.04	0.53
Measles	68	0.5	35.4	16.5

A vaccine for the control of Measles should be available within the next few years.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The following table gives the number of immunisations carried out during the year.

<u>Children born during the year</u>								
	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1952-1956</u>	<u>1947-51</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary Immunisation	1	17	4	1	2	3	3	31
Reinforcing Injections						15	15	30

These figures show a satisfactory level of group immunity.

Smallpox Vaccination

Fifteen persons received primary vaccination.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

As polio vaccine became more readily available there was a considerable extension of vaccination and the offer to vaccinate was raised to include those aged up to 40 years.

Altogether 576 persons have been given three injections or more and a smaller number one or two injections. Adults have not come forward in any numbers.

### Tuberculosis

The number of cases on the register at the end of the year was as follows:-

(The figures in brackets are those for 1959)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	5(5)	4(4)	9(9)
Non-pulmonary	1(0)	1(1)	1(1)

Two new pulmonary cases were notified, a male aged 49 and a female aged 31. One male pulmonary case came to live in the town and one female non-pulmonary. There were no outward transfers and no deaths or recoveries.

### Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Acts 1937 and 1948

#### PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Number of

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are so be enforced by Local Authorities	19	28	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	5	4	nil	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	-	-	-
Total	24	32	1	nil

2. Cases in which defects were found  
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")



Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which defects were referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	nil	nil	nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	nil	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	nil	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	nil	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	nil	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	nil	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	nil	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	nil	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	nil	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	nil	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	nil	nil	nil

### PART VIII OF THE ACT

#### Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

#### Section 110

#### Section 111

Nature of work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing) Making apparel) etc						
) clean-	3	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
) ing and						
) washing						
Household linen	-					
Lace, lace curtains and nets	-					
Curtains and furniture hangings	-					
Furniture and upholstery	-					
Electro-plate	-					
File making	-					
Brass and brass articles	-					
Fur pulling	-					

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
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Iron and Steel cables and chains	-					
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels	-					
Cart gear	-					
Locks, latches and key	-					
Umbrellas, etc.	-					
Artificial flowers	-					
Nets other than wire nets	-					
Tents	-					
Sacks	-					
Racquet and tennis balls	-					
Paper bags	-					
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	-					
Brush making	-					
Pea picking	-					
Feather sorting	-					
Carding etc. of buttons etc.	-					
Stuffed toys	-					
Basket making	-					
Chocolates and sweetmeats	-					
Cosques, Christmas stockings etc	-					
Textile weaving	-					
Lampshades	-					

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3	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
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